

HISTORICAL
COLLECTIONS
OF
VIRGINIA

HENRY HOWE

greater power; but I have before. If the interesting and the awful are the elements of the sublime, here sublimity reigns, as in her own domain, in darkness, silence, and deeps profound."

There died in this county, in February, 1844, a slave, named Gilbert, aged 112 years. He was a servant to Washington at the time of Braddock's defeat, and was afterwards present, in the same capacity, at the surrender of Cornwallis.

BATH.

BATH was formed in 1791, from Augusta, Bottetourt, and Greenbriar. It is about 35 miles long and 25 broad. It is watered by the head-branches of the James, Cow Pasture and Jackson Rivers. Some of the valley lands are very fertile, but the greatest proportion of the county is uncultivated, and covered with mountains. Pop. 1830, 4,008 ; 1840, whites 3,170, slaves 347, free colored 83; total 4,300.

Warin Springs, the county-seat, is 164 miles W. of Richmond, and 40 miles N. E. of the White Sulphur Springs of Greenbriar.

Besides the county buildings, and the elegant hotels for the accommodation of visitors at the springs, there are but a few dwellings. The situation of the place is delightful, in a narrow and fertile valley, between two high mountains, and offers numerous attractions to its many visitors.

The tradition respecting the discovery of the springs is, that a party of Indians hunting, spent a night in the valley. One of their number discovering the spring, bathed in it, and being much fatigued, he was induced, by the delicious sensation and warmth imparted by it, to remain all night. The next morning he was enabled to scale the mountain before his companions. As the country became settled, the fame of the waters gradually extended: and at first, visitors from the low country dwelt here in rude huts. For a long time, both this and the Hot Spring were only surrounded by brush, and open at top.

The subjoined analysis of these waters was made by Prof. Rogers:

"The bath is an octagon, 38 feet in diameter, and 16 feet 9 inches inside—its area is 1163.77 feet. The ordinary depth of water being 5 feet, the cubic capacity is 5818.86 feet, or 43533.32 gallons. Notwithstanding *the leaks*, this quantity of water will flow into the reservoir in one hour. The average *temperature* of the bath is 98 deg. Fahrenheit. The gas which rises in the bath consists of *nitrogen*, with minute quantities of *sulphuretted hydrogen* and *carbonic acid*.

"Besides this gas, each gallon of water contains 4.5 cubic inches of gas, consisting of nitrogen, 3.25 cubic inches; sulphuretted hydrogen, 0.25 do.; carbonic acid, 1.00 do.

"The saline contents of one gallon of the water, are as follows: muriate of lime, 3.968; sulphate of magnesia, 0.004; nitrate of soda, 4.882; sulphate of lime, 5.466; a trace

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" The saline contents of one gallon of the water, are as follows: muriate of lime, 3.968; sulphate of magnesia, 9.984; carbonate of lime, 4.288; sulphate of lime, 5.466; a trace of soda, no doubt; in the state of muriate.

" While the Warm Springs afford the most luxurious bath in the world, they contain neutral salts and various gases, which act as a gentle aperient, diuretic and sudorific, and give tone and vigor to the human system. It is well ascertained in other countries, that waters of a high temperature tend more to strengthen the digestive organs than those of a low temperature; but it is found, by actual experiment, that the water at the Warm Springs retains a considerable portion of its useful qualities when bottled in the spring, and then cooled by immersing the bottles in cold water, or even ice; and this plan is adopted by many of those who have a repugnance to the use of warm water."

The approach to the Warm Springs from the east, is over the mountain of the same name. The road which leads across it is five miles, four-fifths of which is on the east side of the ridge, where to the traveller a succession of deep precipices and glens present themselves, environed with gloomy woods and obscure bottoms. From the summit of the mountain at the Warm Spring Rock, which is much visited, there is a sublime view of parallel ridges of mountains, extending for 40 or 50 miles, one behind the other, as far as the eye can reach, "like a dark blue sea of giant billows, instantly stricken solid by nature's magic wand." Some 70 years since, the principal route of emigration was across this mountain, at which time there was no wagon-road over it. The emigrants came in

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One mile west of the little village of Milboro' Spring, and 12 miles east of the Warm Springs, on the road between the two places, in a high ledge on the bank of the Cow-Pasture River, is the celebrated "*blowing-cave*," described in Jefferson's Notes. The mouth of the cave is 20 or 30 feet above the road, in shape semi-circular, and in height about 4 feet. It has been explored for a

considerable distance. It is said that a small dog who entered found his way out through some unknown passage. When the internal and external atmosphere are the same, there is no perceptible current issuing from it. In intense hot weather, the air comes out with so much force as to prostrate the weeds at the entrance. In a warm day in June, in 1843, as Dr. John Brockenbrough, the principal proprietor of the Warm Springs, was passing in his carriage, he sent a little child to the mouth of the cave, who let go before it a handkerchief, which was blown by the current over the horses' heads in the road, a distance of 30 or 40 feet. In intense cold weather, the air draws in. There is a *flowing and ebbing spring* on the same stream with the blowing-cave, which supplies water-power for a grist-mill, a distillery, and a tan-yard. It flows irregularly. When it commences, the water bursts out in a body as if let loose from a dam.

GEN. SAMUEL BLACKBURN, who resided in this county, was born about the year 1758. He was one of the most successful orators and criminal lawyers of his time in Virginia. He was the father of the anti-duelling law of the state, which we believe was the first passed in the country after the war of the revolution. Among other penalties, it prohibited any one who had been engaged in a duel from holding offices of trust in the gift of the state. Some years after, a gentleman who had challenged another was elected to the legislature. When he came forward to take the customary oath, his violation of this law was urged against him. Some, however, contended that the circumstances of the case were so peculiar that the law did not apply, and fears were enter-

the state. Some years after, a gentleman who had challenged another was elected to the legislature. When he came forward to take the customary oath, his violation of this law was urged against him. Some, however, contended that the circumstances of the case were so aggravating that its provisions ought to be disregarded, and fears were entertained that this sentiment might prevail. Then it was that Gen. Blackburn, who was a member, came forward with a speech of great power in opposition. The result was the triumph of the law in the rejection of the member. Gen. B. died in 1835, aged about 77. He was a man of much benevolence. At his death, he by will manumitted all his slaves, and provided for their transportation to Liberia.

The *Hot Springs* are 5 miles from the Warm, in the same beautiful valley with the latter. These springs stand high in public favor. There are several baths here, called the Hot Spouts. Their highest temperature is 106 degrees.

"The beneficial effects of hot spouts, topically applied, are so miraculous, in many painful and obstinate complaints, that words cannot adequately describe them; therefore the prisoners of pain are strongly recommended to expose their rheumatic joints, gouty toes, and enlarged livers, to the comfortable outpourings of these healing steams. The water of the Hot Springs contains nitrogen and carbonic acid, carbonate of lime, sulphate of lime, sulphate of soda, sulphate of magnesia, muriate of soda, silica, and a trace of oxide of iron. It may be taken internally with much advantage, particularly as a strong and gentle diuretic.

"The effect of this bath on rheumatic and gouty affections, and on old deep-seated and chronic complaints, that medicine does not seem to reach, is very beneficial. It restores the surface to a good condition, and promotes the healthy action of the skin; and every person who drinks the water of the various sulphur springs, should afterwards stop here two or three weeks, and try the virtue of the boiler. There are, near the hotel, a hot and cold spring issuing so near each other, that you can dip the thumb and forefinger of the same hand into hot and cold water at the same time."

POCAHONTAS.

POCAHONTAS was formed in 1821, from Bath, Pendleton, and Randolph, and named from the Indian princess : its mean length is 40 and mean width 18 miles. Cheat, Gauley, and Greenbrier Rivers rise in the county, which is one of the most elevated in Virginia. The surface is very broken and mountainous ; the southern part is tolerably productive, but towards the northeast the land is more barren. Pop. in 1840, whites 2,684, slaves 219, free colored 19; total, 2,922.

Huntersville, the county-seat, is 190 miles nw. of Richmond, between Greenbrier and Alleghany mountains, on Knapp's creek, 6 miles from its junction with Greenbrier River, and at an elevation of over 1800 feet above the Atlantic. It contains an incorporated academy, 2 or 3 religious societies, and about 30 dwellings. "Eighteen miles from Huntersville, on Elk Ridge, a very high mountain, is a circular hole of about 70 feet diameter, which is considered a curiosity, its waters being perfectly black and of a bituminous taste : it is called 'the black hole.' It is said if wooden poles are thrust in, they will sink to rise no more."

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PUBLIC BUILDINGS,—RELICS OF ANTIQUITY,—HISTORIC
LOCALITIES, NATURAL SCENERY, ETC., ETC.

BY HENRY HOWE.

[Arms of Virginia.]



GREENBRIER.

GREENBRIER was formed in 1777, from Botetourt and Montgomery, and named from its principal stream. Its mean length is 46 miles, mean breadth $32\frac{1}{2}$, and area 1409 square miles. The surface is broken, and part of it mountainous. The mountains are infested with reptiles, such as the rattlesnake, copperhead, blacksnake, &c.; there are some deer, wild turkeys, pheasants, wolves, wild-cats, panthers, bears, and a variety of small game. The horses raised in this region are distinguished for durability. The land on Greenbrier River, which runs centrally through the county, is very fertile; the mean elevation of the farms above the ocean is at least 1,500 feet. There was manufactured in this county in 1840, 114,932 pounds of maple sugar. Pop., whites 7,287, slaves 1,214, free colored 194; total, 8,695.

Frankfort, 10 miles NE. of Lewisburg, contains a Methodist church and about 50 dwellings. In March, 1669, Col. John Stuart, Robert McClenachan, Thomas Renick, and Wm. Hamilton, settled here. They, as well as all those that immediately followed, were from Augusta county. This was the first permanent settlement in the county.

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Lewisburg, the seat of justice for the county, lies on the James River and Kanawha turnpike; 214 miles west of Richmond, 263 from Washington; about 150 from Guyandotte, on the Ohio River, 9 miles w. of the White Sulphur, and 13 from the Blue Sulphur Springs. This town was established by law in October, 1782, and the act appointed the following gentlemen trustees, viz.: Samuel Lewis, James Reid, Samuel Brown, Andrew Donnelly, John Stuart, Archer Mathews, Wm. Ward, and Thomas Edgar. It contains 6 mercantile stores, 1 newspaper printing office, 1 Baptist, 1 Presbyterian, and 1 Methodist church, 1 academy, and a population of about 800. It is a flourishing village, the most important in this whole region, and the place where the western branch of the court of appeals hold their sittings.

Lewisburg stands on the site of the old Savannah Fort, and is the place where the army of Gen. Lewis rendezvoused in 1774, previous to the battle of Point Pleasant. They constructed the first road ever made from here to Point Pleasant on the Ohio, distant about 160 miles. The old fort at this place stood about 100 yards S.E. of the site of the present court-house, on land now (1843) belonging to Mr. Thomas B. Reynold, and the widow of Mr. Wm. Mathews. It was erected about the year 1770.

The first church—a Presbyterian—erected at Lewisburg, was about the year 1795. It is a stone edifice, and is now occupied by that denomination. Previously, the same society had a log church, about a mile and a half N.W. of the village, near the present residence of Mr. Chas. Rogers. Their first clergyman was the Rev John M'Cue. There were then some Baptists in the county; their clergyman was the Rev. John Alderson. Lewisburg derived its name from the Lewis family. In olden time it was called "the Savannah," being a kind of a prairie.

The following details respecting the early settlement of the county, the difficulties with the Indians, &c., are from Stuart's "Memoir of the Indian Wars and other Occurrences:"

About the year 1749, a person, who was a citizen of the county of Frederick, and subject to paroxysms of lunacy, when influenced by such fits, usually made excursions into the wilderness, and in his rambles westwardly, fell in on the waters of Greenbrier River. At that

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they arose and Marlin came out of the great house and he from his hollow tree, they sa-
luted each other, saying, Good-morning, Mr. Marlin, and Good-morning, Mr. Sewell, so
that a good understanding then existed between them ; but it did not last long, for Sew-
ell removed about forty miles further west, to a creek that still bears his name. There
the Indians found him and killed him.

Previous to the year 1755, Mr. Lewis had completed for the grantees, under the order
of council, upwards of fifty thousand acres ;—and the war then commencing between
England and France, nothing further was done in the business until the year 1761, when
his majesty issued his proclamation commanding all his subjects within the bounds of
the colony of Virginia, who were living, or who had made settlements on the western
waters, to remove from them, as the lands were claimed by the Indians, and good policy
required that a peaceable understanding should be preserved with them, to prevent hos-
tilities on their part. The order of council was never afterwards carried into effect, or
his majesty's consent obtained to confirm it.

At the commencement of the revolution, when the state of Virginia began to assume
independence, and held a convention in 1776, some efforts were made to have the order
of council established under the new order of things then beginning to take place. But
it was not confirmed ; and commissioners were appointed, in 1777, to grant certificates
to each individual who had made settlements on the western waters, in the state of

Virginia, previous to the year 1768 and since, with preference according to the time of improvements; which certificates gave the holder a right to four hundred acres for his settlement claim, and the pre-emption of one thousand more, if so much were found clear of prior claims, and the holder chose to accept it. The following year, 1778, Greenbrier was separated from Botetourt county, and the county took its name from the river, which was so named by old Colonel John Lewis, father to the late General, and one of the grantees under the order of council, who, in company with his son Andrew, exploring the country in 1751, entangled himself in a bunch of green briers on the river, and declared he would ever after call the river Greenbrier River.

After peace was confirmed between England and France, in the year 1761, the Indiana commenced hostilities, in 1763, when all the inhabitants in Greenbrier were totally cut off by a party of Indians, headed by the Cornstalk warrior. The chief settlements were on Muddy creek. These Indians, in number about sixty, introduced themselves into the people's houses under the mask of friendship, and every civility was offered them by the people, providing them victuals and accommodations for their entertainment, when, on a sudden, they killed the men, and made prisoners of the women and children. From thence they passed over into the Levels, where some families were collected at the house of Archibald Clendenin, (where the Hon. Balard Smith now lives.) There were between fifty and one hundred persons, men, women, and children. There the Indians were entertained, as at Muddy creek, in the most hospitable manner. Clendenin having just arrived from a hunt, with three fat elks, they were plentifully feasted. In the mean time, an old woman, with a sore leg, was showing her distress to an Indian, and inquiring if he could administer to her relief; he said he thought he could; and drawing his tomahawk, instantly killed her and all the men almost, that were in the house. Conrad Yolkom only escaped, by being some distance from the house, when the outeries of the women and children alarmed him. He fled to Jackson's River and alarmed the people, who were unwilling to believe him, until the approach of the Indians convinced them. All fled before them; and they pursued on to Carr's creek, in Rockbridge county, where many families were killed and taken by them. At Clendenin's

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An end was put to the war in the fall of that year by the treaty which Col. Boquet held with the Indians, near Muskingum. In the spring of 1774, another Indian war—known as Dunmore's war—broke out. In the fall of that year, a portion of the army under Gen. Lewis, destined to act against the Indians, assembled at Camp Union, (now Lewisburg,) and from thence marched on through the wilderness to the mouth of the Great Kanawha, where they met and defeated the Indians under their famous leader, the brave and generous Cornstalk. For an account of this action, the battle of Point Pleasant, see Mason county.

In 1778, an attack was made by about 200 Indians, upon Donnally's Fort. This fort stood about 100 yards E. of the present residence of Mr. Anthony Rader, on Rader's run, 10 miles N. of Lewisburg. It was a double log-house, with a chimney in the centre, and was surrounded by a stockade of split logs. The house was destroyed about the year 1825, at which time many bullets were found in the timbers. Dick Pointer, the old negro who acted so gallantly in its defence, died only a few years since. The state had purchased his freedom in reward for his services. He was buried with the honors of war. The account of the attack on Donnally's Fort is here given from the memoir of Mr. Stuart :

Intelligence having been conveyed to Col. Donnally of the approach of the Indians, he lost no time to collect in all his nearest neighbors that night, and sent a servant to my house to inform me. Before day about twenty men, including Hammond and Prior, were collected at Donnally's, and they had the advantage of a stockade fort around and adjoining the house. There was a number of women and children, making in all about sixty persons in the house. On the next day they kept a good look-out, in momentary expectation of the enemy.

Colonel Samuel Lewis was at my house when Donnally's servant came with the intelligence ; and we lost no time in alarming the people, and to collect as many men for defence as we could get at Camp Union all the next day. But all were busy ; some flying with their families to the inward settlements, and others securing their property, so that in the course of the day, we had not collected near one hundred men. On the following day we sent out two scouts to Donnally's, very early in the morning, who soon returned with intelligence that the fort was attacked. The scouts had got within one

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When we got into the fort, we found that there were only four men killed. Two of them who were coming to the fort, fell into the midst of the Indians, and were killed. A servant of Donnally's was killed early in the morning on the first attack; and one man was killed in a bastion in the fort. The Indians had commenced their attack about daylight in the morning, when the people were all in bed, except Philip Hammond and an old negro. The house formed one part of the fort, and was double, the kitchen making one end of the house, and there Hammond and the negro were. A hogshead of water was placed against the

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was placed against the door. The enemy had laid down their guns at a sta-
tion about fifty yards from the house, and made their attacks with tomahawks and war-
clubs. Hammond and the negro held the door till they were splitting it with their toma-
haws: they suddenly let the door open, and Hammond killed the Indian on the
threshold, who was splitting the door. The negro had a musket charged with swan-
shot, and was jumping about in the floor asking Hammond where he should shoot.
Hammond bade him fire away among them; for the yard was crowded as thick as they
stand. Dick fired away, and I believe, with good effect; for a war-club lay in
the yard with a swan-shot in it. Dick is now upwards of eighty years old, has long
been abandoned by his master, as also his wife, aged as himself, and they have made
no support their miserable existence, many years past, by their own endeavors. This
poor negro, to whom our Assembly, at its last session, refused to grant a small pension
to support the short remainder of his wretched days, which must soon end, although
a humble petition was supported by certificates of the most respectable men in the

county, of his meritorious service on this occasion, which saved the lives of many citizens then in the house.

The firing of Hammond and Dick awakened the people in the other end of the house, and up stairs, where the chief of the men were lying. They soon fired out of the windows on the Indians so briskly, that when we got to the fort, seventeen of them lay dead in the yard, one of whom was a boy about fifteen or sixteen years old. His body was so torn by the bullets that a man might have run his arm through him, yet he lived almost all day, and made a most lamentable cry. The Indians called to him to go into the house.

After dark, a fellow drew near to the fort and called out in English that he wanted to make peace. We invited him in to consult on the terms, but he declined our civility. They departed that night, after dragging eight of their slain out of the yard; but we never afterwards found where they buried them. They visited Greenbrier but twice afterwards, and then in very small parties, one of which killed a man and his wife, of the name of Munday, and wounded Capt. Samuel McClung. The last person killed was Thomas Griffith; his son was taken, but going down the Kenawha, they were pursued, one of the Indians was killed, and the boy was relieved, which ended our war in Greenbrier with the Indians, in the year 1780.

The WHITE SULPHUR SPRING of Greenbrier, the most celebrated of all the watering-places of Virginia, is 9 miles easterly from Lewisburg, about 170 from the Ohio River at Point Pleasant, 242 sw. of Washington City, and 205 w. of Richmond. It is thus described by a late visitor :

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The White Sulphur Spring is situated some 6 or 8 miles from the height of the Alleghany, on the western declivity, in an extensive valley beautifully embosomed with hills and mountains. It was known to the Indians as one of the most important licks of the deer and the elk. As early as 1772, a woman was brought here on a litter 40 miles, whose disease had baffled all medical skill. A tree was felled, and a trough dug and filled with the mineral water, which was heated by putting hot stones into it. In this the patient was bathed, while, at the same time, she drank freely of the fountain. In a few weeks she went from her bark cabin perfectly restored. The fame of this cure attracted many sick persons to the spring, and they soon commenced throwing up rude log cabins. But the dreariness of the mountains, the badness of the roads, and the poverty of the accommodations, repelled all but the desperate from these health-giving waters till 1818, when they fell into the hands of Mr. Calwell, the present enterprising owner. From that time the place has continued rapidly to improve. Mr. Calwell's estate includes from ten to twelve thousand acres, much of which is fine interval soil. All the buildings, for one or two miles around the spring, belong to him. Nature has done every thing to make this an enchanting spot. The valley opens about half a mile in breadth, winding in length from east to west, with graceful undulations, beyond the eye's reach. The fountain issues from the foot of a gentle slope, terminating in the low interval upon a small and beautiful river. The ground ascends from the spring eastward, rising to a considerable eminence on the left, and spreading east and south into a wide and beautiful lawn. The lawn and walks cover perhaps fifty acres. A few rods

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ward, rising to a considerable eminence on the left, and spreading east and south into a
wide and beautiful lawn. The lawn and walks cover perhaps fifty acres. A few rods
from the spring, at the right, are the hotel, the dining-hall, the ball-room: all the rest of
the ground is occupied mainly with cabins. These are rows of contiguous buildings, one
story high, mostly of wood, some of brick, and a few of hewed logs white-washed.
The framed cabins are all painted white. Directly to the right of the spring, and very
near it, is Spring row; further eastward, with a continuous piazza shaded with vines, is
Virginia row; at right-angles with this, crossing the lawn in the middle, is South Caro-
lina row; heading the eastern extremity of the lawn is Bachelor's row; on the north
side of the lawn, beginning nearest the spring, are Alabama, Louisiana, Paradise, and
Baltimore rows—the last of which is the most elegant in the place. Without the enclo-
sure, southward from the fountain, is Broadway; and a little west from this, on the
Guyandot road, is Wolf row. The appearance of these cabins, painted, decorated,
looking forth from the green foliage, and tastefully arranged, is beautiful and imposing.

I have an analysis of the spring by Professor Rogers, the distinguished state geolo-
gist, but am not permitted to communicate the proportions, as he wishes to reserve that
fraction of interest for his forthcoming work. The solid matter procured by evaporation
from 100 cubic inches, weighs 63.54 grains, composed of sulphate of lime, sulphate of



VIEW AT THE WHITE SULPHUR SPRINGS OF GREENBRIER.

seen near Martin's hotel, shows only a portion of the erections at this, one of the most popular watering places in the state. Virginia Row is shown in front, Baltimore Row beyond, and Greenbrier Mountain in the distance.

magnesia, sulphate of soda, carbonate of lime, carbonate of magnesia, chloride of magnesium, chloride of sodium, chloride of calcium, peroxide of iron, phosphate of lime, sulphate and hydrate of sodium, organic matter, precipitated sulphur, iodine. The gaseous matter consists of sulphurated hydrogen, carbonic acid, nitrogen, and oxygen. It is obvious, from this analysis, that the water must exert a very positive agency upon the system. Its remedial virtues extend chiefly to diseases of the liver, kidneys, alimentary canal, and to scrofula, rheumatism, and neuralgia.

The fountain is covered with a stately Doric dome, sustained by twelve large pillars, and surmounted with a colossal statue of Hygeia, looking towards the rising sun.

The *Blue Sulphur Spring*, in this county, is also quite popular. The improvements are extensive, and the location one of much natural beauty. The water tastes like that of the White Sulphur. Subjoined is the analysis:

Analysis.—Solid ingredients in the Blue Sulphur Water.—Sulphate of lime; sulphate of magnesia; sulphate of soda; carbonate of lime; carbonate of magnesia; chloride of magnesium; chloride of sodium; chloride of calcium; hydro-sulphate of sodium and magnesium; oxide of iron, existing as proto-sulphate; iodine, sulphur, organic matter. *Gaseous ingredients.*—Sulphurated hydrogen; carbonic acid; oxygen; nitrogen.

The spring is a very bold one, furnishing fifteen gallons of water to a minute; there is a great deal of red, white, and black, and other deposits from the water.

PENDLETON.

PENDLETON was formed in 1788, from Augusta, Hardy, and Rockingham, and named from Edmund Pendleton, president of the Virginia convention of 1775. It is 45 miles long, with a mean width of 22 miles. The country is extremely mountainous, and is watered by some of the head branches of the Potomac and the James: the level of arable land from whence flow these streams, it is estimated must exceed 2,000 feet above the ocean. Over one hundred thousand pounds of maple sugar are annually produced. Pop. in 1840, whites 6,445, slaves 462, free colored 33; total, 6,940.

Franklin, the county-seat, is 171 miles nw. of Richmond, near the centre of the county, on the south branch of the Potomac; and contains about 40 dwellings.

Twelve miles northeast of Franklin, on the south fork of the south branch of the Potomae, stood Seybert's fort, in the early settlement of the country.

In this fort, in the year 1758, (says Withers,) the inhabitants of what was then called the "Upper Tract," all sought shelter from the tempest of savage ferocity; and at the time the Indians appeared before it, there were contained within its walls between thirty and forty persons of both sexes and of different ages. Among them was Mr. Dyer (the father of Col. Dyer, now of Pendleton) and his family. On the morning of the fatal day, Col. Dyer and his sister left the fort for the accomplishment of some object, and although no Indians had been seen there for some time, yet did they not proceed far, before they

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The Indians rushed immediately to the fort and commenced a furious assault on it. Capt. Seybert prevailed (not without much opposition) on the besieged to forbear firing until he should endeavor to negotiate with, and buy off the enemy. With this view, and under the protection of a flag, he went out, and soon succeeded in making the wished-for arrangement. When he returned, the gates were thrown open, and the enemy admitted.

No sooner had the money and other articles stipulated to be given, been handed over to the Indians, than a most bloody tragedy was begun to be acted. Arranging the inmates of the fort in two rows, with a space of about ten feet between them, two Indians were selected, who, taking each his station at the head of a row, with their tomahawks most cruelly murdered almost every white person in the fort; some few, whom caprice or some other cause induced them to spare, were carried into captivity. Such articles as could be well carried away were taken off by the Indians; the remainder was consumed, with the fort, by fire.

From Mr. Samuel Kercheval, the author of the "History of the

," we have obtained the following additional facts relating to the attack on this fort:

Indians were commanded by the blood-thirsty chief Killbuck. Seybert's son, about fifteen, exhibited great firmness and bravery. He had shot two of the Indians when their chief called out in English, that if they surrendered, their lives would be spared. At that instant young Seybert was in the act of aiming his rifle, when his father seized it from him, observing, "We cannot defend the fort, let us surrender to save our lives!" confiding in the faithless promises of Killbuck. The salutation he received after surrendering, was a stroke in the mouth from Killbuck with the pipe end of his tomahawk, dislocating the old man's teeth, shortly after which he was massacred with the other victims. Young Seybert was treated with the other prisoners. *He told Killbuck that he had raised his gun to shoot him, and that his father had wrested it from him.* The savage laughed and replied, "Indeed, if you had killed me you would have saved the fort; for had I fallen, I would have immediately fled, and given up the siege in despair."
